Docket No. RSW920010065US1

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is

1   1.   A method in a data processing system for researching
2   text in an electronic book, the method comprising:
3   receiving a user input selecting the text from the
4   electronic book to form selected text; and
5   automatically initiating a search for at least one
6   item relevant to the selected text in response to
7   receiving the user input.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein at least one item is
2   at least one of a Web page, a Web site, another
3   electronic book, an electronic document, and a universal
4   resource locator.

1   3.   The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2   storing the selected text in a data structure.

1   4.   The method of claim 2, wherein data structure is a
2   search profile.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the selected text is
2   highlighted text.

1   6.   The method of claim 5, wherein the highlighted text
2   is text in a different color from unselected text, bolded
3   text, and text with a different font type from unselected
4   text.

Docket No. RSW920010065US1

1 7. The method of claim 5, wherein the highlighted text
2 is a notated passage of text in the electronic book.

1 8. The method of claim 5, wherein the highlighted text
2 is a highlighted passage of text in the electronic book.

1 9. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 receiving a result from the searching; and
3 presenting the result.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the step of receiving
2 a result is initiated using a search engine.

1 11. A method in a data processing system for searching
2 text, the method comprising:
3 responsive to a designation of the text in an
4 electronic document, placing the text in a data
5 structure;
6 transmitting the data structure to a search engine;
7 and
8 receiving results from the search engine.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the data structure
2 is a search profile.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the search profile
2 includes search criteria.

1 14. The method of claim 11, wherein the electronic

Docket No. RSW920010065US1

1   document is an electronic book.

1   15. The method of claim 11, wherein the electronic
2   document is a Web page.

1   16. The method of claim 11, wherein the designation of
2   the text is made by highlighting the text in the
3   electronic document.

1   17. A method in a data processing system for researching
2   highlighted text in an electronic book, the method
3   comprising:
4   receiving results of researched selected text;
5   downloading the results of researched selected text;
6   and
7   displaying the results of researched selected text.

1   18. A data processing system for researching highlighted
2   text in an electronic book, a data processing system
3   comprising:
4   receiving means for receiving a user input selecting
5   the text from the electronic book to form selected text;
6   and
7   initiating means for automatically initiating a
8   search for at least one item relevant to the selected
9   text in response to receiving the user input.

1   19. A method in a data processing system for searching
2   text, the method comprising:

Docket No. RSW920010065US1

1   responsive to a designation of the text in an

2   electronic document, placing means for placing the text

3   in a data structure;

4   transmitting means for transmitting the data

5   structure to a search engine; and

6   receiving means for receiving results from the

7   search engine.

1   20.   A data processing system comprising:

2   a bus system;

3   a communication unit connected to the bus system;

4   a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the

5   memory includes a set of instructions; and

6   a processing unit connected to the bus system,

7   wherein the processing unit executes the set of

8   instruction to receiving a user input selecting the text

9   from the electronic book to form selected text; and

10   automatically initiating a search for at least one item

11   relevant to the selected text in response to receiving

12   the user input.

1   21.   A computer program product in a computer readable

2   medium for researching highlighted text in an electronic

3   book, the computer program product comprising:

4   first instructions for receiving a user input

5   selecting the text from the electronic book to form

6   selected text; and

Docket No. RSW920010065US1

1   second instructions for automatically initiating a

2   search for at least one item relevant to the selected

3   text in response to receiving the user input.